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Its decline socially divides and politically polarizes US imperialism

The assault on the United States Congress, which took place on January 6, was a glaring manifestation of the historic decline of the U.S. superpower, in particular of its vaunted model of liberal democracy.

This was a real defeat of the international image and consensus of the USA.

With what face can US imperialism continue to meddle and interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, especially those it oppresses, under the pretext of Wall Street's vaunted "democracy and freedom"?

The boomerang that the US has launched for decades, organizing and financing reactionary revolts, and "color revolutions", encouraging and training putschists (the famous "freedom fighters"), staging coups, overthrowing governments they do not like, open and covert military operations, it is as come back to hit it on its head.

The "beacon of democracy" is now dim and behind the slogan Make America Great Again one can see the fall of the "Yankee gods".

The assault on the temple of false and hypocritical bourgeois democracy, where the legislative power of the United States is based, was clearly fomented by Trump to try to interrupt the electoral process and prevent Biden's becoming president.

Participating were several thousand of his supporters: private militias, military veterans, cops, racist groups, conspiracy theorists, white supremacists, neo-Nazis and evangelical Christians, who made an assault unprecedented in US history on the Capitol in Washington. It is indicative that the "security forces" put up only a minimum resistance against the reactionary and fascist forces (in some cases they have even supported and protected them, as shown by photos and videos) in order to preserve the "democratic facade" of state apparatus.

These forces serve in the United States, as in the "Western democracies", to combat social unrest, the revolts of workers who oppose the consequences of the crisis; they are used against the oppressed minorities, against the revolutionaries and communists.

The attempt to occupy the Congress was the latest chapter in a polarized election campaign, which split the electorate in two, as well as the result of Trump's continuous incitement not to recognize the election result, despite losing by over five million of votes in the popular vote.

This split – which reflects the struggle between sectors of monopoly finance capital (see the article on Biden published in the previous issue of *Scintilla*) and the divisions of the big bourgeoisie on the strategy to follow to maintain world supremacy – will persist even after the transfer of office. It will become gangrenous with the rhetoric of "stolen popular sovereignty",

the desire for revenge and the radicalization of the political positions of the U.S. "middle class", which finds no outlet except in a reactionary sense.

If the assault on Congress probably marked the political decline of "The Donald", this does not mean the end of Trumpism, which has a large electoral base.

This proto-fascist, chauvinist and populist movement, which feeds on fears and social discontent, will take on more aggressive forms, it will continue to deploy its contingents in the streets, breaking free from the traditional path of the Republican Party, which has hypocritically distanced itself from the rioters (as do our local Trumpists, first of all Salvini and Meloni).

Fascism is always a reserve weapon for the bourgeoisie, which can be used at the right moment.

At the same time, we must not have any illusions about the change of presidency.

The aggressive, warmongering and anti-popular nature of the U.S., which is the principle imperialism on the planet, will remain so with the conservative "democratic" Joe Biden.

He will try to defend U.S. world hegemony at any cost from the continuing rise of Chinese imperialism, which is advancing by creating free trade zones and agreements with Washington's allies and with the EU it is proceeding on the Silk Road, it is economically strengthened in the context of the pandemic and is preparing for military confrontation.

To safeguard U.S. hegemony, Biden will have to intensify the conflict with China, increasing military spending and pushing financial parasitism to the highest degree.

Consequently he will have to bleed the U.S. even more internally, worsening the living conditions of the working class and the popular masses and exacerbating the current political crisis. Lenin emphasized that imperialism means that is a rotten system and has become "a purulent abscess".

Today this can be seen very well from the developments in the United States, as a resumption of the class struggle can be observed through the protest actions of the workers, the youth and the oppressed, who are demonstrating against the policies of the employers and state, against unemployment, lack of health care and social services, police violence and racism.

The only way for the liberation of the proletariat and oppressed peoples is to fight against imperialism and capitalism, without nourishing hopes of the bourgeois parties and personalities, whether they are liberals, social democrats or reactionaries; without relying on one imperialism to fight another, but by organizing independently to overthrow the domination of the bourgeoisie and build a new society, free from the exploitation of one human being by another.